

**Claims:**

1. A method of determining a cost data relating to a cost of a registered trade mark application, said method characterized by comprising the steps of:

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receiving input data describing a trade mark;

receiving input data describing at least one territory;

10 receiving input data describing a number of classes of goods/services for a said registered trade mark application;

storing component cost data relating to a plurality of component costs of said registered trade mark application in at least one territory; and

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calculating substantially in real time said cost data relating to a cost of said registered trade mark application from said stored data.

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2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a said calculated cost data is generated by:

reading said stored cost data from a look up table comprising a plurality of individual component costs for each of a plurality of individual territories; and

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adding a plurality of said individual component costs to obtain said calculated cost data.

3. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of:

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displaying said calculated cost substantially in real time.

4. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of:

calculating said calculated data cost in a plurality of different currencies.

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5. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of calculating comprises calculating a said calculated cost in a first currency, and converting said calculated cost to a second currency.

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6. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of:

making said calculated cost data available for substantially real time display.

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7. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of storing data comprises, for each of a plurality of territories:

storing at least one official fee cost data relating to an official fee payable to a governmental/intergovernmental body; and

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storing at least one vendor fee cost data relating to a vendor fee charged by a vendor of trade mark services.

8. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of calculating a cost substantially in real time comprises the steps of:

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reading from a look up table, a vendor filing cost;

reading from said look up table an official fee for filing said trade mark; and

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adding said vendor filing fee cost and said official filing fee cost.

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9. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of receiving data describing a trade mark comprises inputting a bitmap representing a two dimensional image of said trade mark.

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10. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of storing data relating to cost of said registered trade mark application in said country comprises:

10 for each of a plurality of territories, storing data describing;

a plurality of official fee component costs, describing individual official fees for various operations;

15 a plurality of vendor fee component costs, each describing a vendor fee levied for a specific service;

a plurality of associate fee component costs, each describing a cost for a service for a specified item levied by an associate.

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11. The method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising:

reading from said look up table a vendor priority cost data for claiming a priority; and

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adding said vendor priority cost data to said vendor filing cost and said official filing fee cost.

12. The method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising:

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reading from said look up table a vendor seniority cost for claiming a seniority; and

5 adding said vendor seniority cost to said vendor filing cost and said official filing fee cost.

13. The method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising the step of:

10 reading from said look up table a vendor designation cost for designation of a territory; and

adding said vendor designation cost to said vendor filing fee cost and said official filing fee cost.

15 14. A method of determining a cost of a registered trade mark application via an online interactive trading system, said method comprising the steps of:

inputting a trade mark;

20 inputting a specification of goods/services relating to said trade mark;

inputting at least one territory for said trade mark, said method characterized by;

25 displaying a substantially real time calculated cost of applying for said trade mark in said at least one territory, for said specification of goods/services.

15. The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein said step of displaying comprises making said real time calculated cost available for display via a web server apparatus.

5 16. The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

modifying a specification of goods/services by selecting/deselecting classes of goods/services;

10 wherein said displayed cost is recalculated substantially in real time to reflect a modified cost of said trade mark for said modified specification of goods/services.

15 17. The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein:

said step of inputting a specification of goods/services comprises inputting a plurality of goods/services categorised in more than one class of a classification system; and

20 said specification of goods/services is selected from a display comprising a plurality of class icons, each representing an individual class of goods/services.

18. The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein:

25 said step of inputting a specification of goods/services comprises inputting a plurality of goods/services categorized in at least one class of a classification system; and

modifying said input specification of goods/services so that said modified goods/services are categorized in a different number of classes of said categorization system;

5        wherein, said cost of said registered trade mark application is calculated substantially in real time to account for modifications to said specification of goods/services.

19.      The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein:

10        said step of inputting at least one territory for said trade mark comprises selecting a plurality of territories from a menu display listing said plurality of territories, said method further comprising the steps of:

15        modifying a selection of said territories by selecting/deselecting individual territory icons on a screen display, to obtain a modified selection of territories;

wherein said displayed cost is recalculated substantially in real time to reflect a modified cost of said trade mark for said modified selection of territories.

20        The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

inputting at least one priority claim;

25        wherein said displayed cost is recalculated substantially in real time to reflect a modified cost of said trade mark including said at least one priority claim.

21.      The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising the step of:

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inputting a selection of at least one priority claim for claiming a priority right from at least one earlier trade mark; and

modifying said selection of said at least one priority claim by selecting/deselecting at least one said priority claim to obtain a modified priority claim selection;

wherein said displayed cost is recalculated substantially in real time to represent a modified cost of said trade mark for said modified selection.

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22. The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

inputting at least one seniority claim for claiming seniority from at least one earlier trade mark;

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wherein said displayed cost is recalculated substantially in real time according to said input of at least one seniority claim.

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23. The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising the step of:

inputting a selection of at least one seniority claim, for claiming a seniority right from at least one earlier trade mark; and

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modifying said selection of at least one seniority claim by selecting/deselecting a said at least one seniority claim to obtain a modified seniority claim selection;

wherein said displayed cost is recalculated substantially in real time to represent a modified cost of said trade mark for said modified selection.

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24. The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising the step of:

inputting at least one designated territory for a regional trade mark;

5 wherein said displayed cost is recalculated in real time according to said input of said at least one designated territory.

25. The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising:

10 displaying a set of component costs used for calculating said substantially real time calculated costs; and

15 selecting/deselecting individual said component costs to modify said real time calculated cost of said trade mark.

26. The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising the step of:

selecting a currency of a plurality of different currencies, in which said cost is displayed.

20 27. The method as claimed in claim 25, wherein said component costs comprise costs selected from the set:

official fees payable to governmental/intergovernmental bodies; and

25 vendor fees levied by a vendor providing a trade mark service.

28. The method as claimed in claim 25, further comprising:

displaying a said component cost in a currency selected from a plurality of different currencies.

29. A method of activating a registered trade mark application via an  
5 online interactive trade system, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving an input trade mark data describing a trade mark;

receiving an input specification of goods/services relating to the trade mark;

10 receiving an input selection of at least one territory for said trade mark;  
characterized by

15 displaying a substantially real time calculated cost of said trade mark in said  
at least one territory for said specification of goods/services.

30. A user interface display configured for displaying for a trade mark:

a plurality of classes of goods/services relating to said trade mark;

20 at least one territory relating to said trade mark; and

a substantially real time calculated cost relating to said trade mark.

25 31. The user interface as claimed in claim 30, configured for displaying  
a number of priority claims relating to said trade mark.

32. The user interface as claimed in claim 30, configured for displaying  
a number of seniority claims relating to said trade mark.

33. The user interface as claimed in claim 30, configured for displaying a number of designated territories relating to said trade mark.

5 34. The user interface as claimed in claim 30, configured for displaying a number of classes of goods/services relating to said trade marks.

35. The user interface as claimed in claim 30, configured to display for a trade mark:

10 a plurality of territories, and for each said territory;

a number of selected classes of goods/services;

15 a number of priority claims; and

15 a cost of applying for said trade mark in said territory.

36. A method of online trading, for instructing a registered trade mark application, said method comprising:

20 generating a display window for a trade mark, said display window displaying:

a list of individual territories relating to said trade mark;

25 for each said territory, a list of classes of goods/services of said trade mark in said territory;

for each said territory, a cost of said trade mark;

wherein said cost is calculated substantially in real time.

37. The method as claimed in claim 36, wherein said display window is also configured for displaying;

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whether a priority claim is made for said mark in a said territory;

whether a seniority claim is made for said mark in a said territory;

10 wherein, any of said priority claim, said seniority claim, or any said class of goods/services may be interactively selected/deselected, and wherein

15 said cost is recalculated substantially in real time to reflect a modified cost of said mark in said territory having a different set of priority, seniority, and classes of goods/services.

38. A user interface for an online trading system, for filing a registered trade mark application, said user interface comprising:

20 a cost calculator window, displaying at least one trade mark in at least one country, and a calculated cost relating to said trade mark;

25 a currency conversion window activated as an expansion of said cost calculator window, said currency conversion window capable of converting a cost from a first currency to a second currency, said cost selected from:

a total filing cost of a trade mark application in an individual territory;

a total cost of a filing program of a trade mark in a plurality of territories;

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an official fee; a vendor fee charged by a vendor for providing a trade mark service; an associate fee charged by an associate for performing a trade mark service.

5        39.      Means for generating a user interface display for displaying data relating to a trade mark, said data comprising:

data describing said trade mark;

10        data describing at least one territory relating to said trade mark;

data describing at least one class of goods/services relating to said trade mark;

15        data relating to a cost of said trade mark;

said means comprising:

means for storing of component cost data for a trade mark in each of a plurality of territories;

means for calculating substantially in real time, a cost of said trade mark in at least one said territory.

25        40.      Means as claimed in claim 39, further comprising a web server allowing said display to be viewed from a plurality of remote locations.

41.      Means as claimed in claim 39, wherein said means for calculating substantially in real time a cost of said trade mark, calculates said cost from an

input data received from a customer terminal, and said stored component cost data.